

03500.017848

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                              |   |                        |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re Application of:        | ) |                        |
|                              | : | Examiner: Unassigned   |
| Nobuyuki ITO, et al.         | ) |                        |
|                              | : | Group Art Unit: 2622   |
| Application No.: 10/760,316  | ) |                        |
|                              | : | Confirmation No.: 1534 |
| Filed: January 21, 2004      | ) |                        |
|                              | : |                        |
| For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS | ) | February 6, 2007       |

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed European Search Report dated December 15, 2006, which was prepared in a counterpart application.

REMARKS

European Patent No. 1 376 255, which is cited in the European Search Report, was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 3, 2005. Accordingly, neither a copy of this patent document is enclosed nor is it listed on a citation form.

### STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), since a first Official Action has not been received in the above-identified application, neither a Statement, Petition, nor payment of a fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be deemed necessary in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge receipt and consideration of the European Search Report in the next Official Action.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the New York address shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

/William M. Wannisky/

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